

## **Beaverton Police Department**

4755 S.W. Griffith Drive Beaverton, Oregon 97005

Chief Geoff Spalding

## **NEWS RELEASE**



Mark G Hyde Public Information Office 971-253-9062 Released: 07-21-2011 Case No: None

## Beaverton Police Introduce Facebook Page

The most recent published information suggests that nearly one half billion people regularly use the social networking site identified as Facebook. That potential for a rapid and direct connection to the public is not lost on the Beaverton Police Department.

Effective today, the Beaverton Police Facebook page; Facebook.com/BeavertonPoliceDepartment is open for business.

Although the site has been open for some time with limited access, police were working out some operational issues before publicly announcing its existence.

Facebook can help law enforcement agencies reach a large and diverse audience. Among other uses Facebook can be used to disseminate press releases, provide a larger audience for Amber Alerts, report on road closures due to collisions or weather related issues, provide suspect information, educate the community with prevention tips and crime trends, promote events, act as a recruiting tool and open up a dialogue with readers.

Police will continue to fine tune the site as they learn what aspects of its existence are most beneficial and followed by the users.